727 by the German invaders in the Ukraine, and more than two million had been abducted to slavery in Germany. Of these so deported, a considerable number perished in captivity[1].

The figure of four million Soviet citizens murdered in the Ukraine does not clearly indicate whether all of them were Ukrainians or whether a certain percentage came from other parts of the Soviet Union. No figures have been revealed showing the number of the Ukrainians killed at the front against the German armies and their satellites. However, a comparison of the pre-war and present electorate figures for the Ukraine gives some indication of the decrease, at least of the adult population. On December 12, 1937, the Ukrainian electorate was about 17,540,000; in 1939 this number was increased by the addition of Western Ukraine, which on March 24, 1940, had more than five million voters. But nearly seven years later, in the elections of February 1947, despite the fact that part of Bessarabia, Northern Bukovina, and the Transcarpathian Ukraine also had been added, the total electorate in the Ukrainian S.S.R. was only 21,545,000.

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Damages to Industry and Agriculture

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The damage which the Germans inflicted on the industry and farming of the Ukrainian and Byelorussian Republics was tremendous, and far exceeded any comparable destruction in Western Europe.

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In the Ukraine the Germans destroyed or burned down 714 towns and more than 28,000 hamlets and villages, destroyed more than two million buildings and 540,000 outbuildings, and rendered about 10 million persons homeless (one-fourth of the Ukrainian population)[2].

Agriculture, animal husbandry, and industry were devastated. The coal mines were flooded. Over 16,150 industrial enterprises employing more than two million workers were stripped of machinery and the buildings heavily damaged or destroyed. The Germans wrecked or took away 127,800 electric motors and 81,600 metal-cutting lathes, destroyed railway lines and stations, and post and telegraph offices[2].

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Tremendous damage was done to Ukrainian agriculture. The Germans ruined and plundered collective farms, state farms and machine and tractor stations.

Millions of hectares of planned fields were destroyed and over 56,000 tractors wrecked. Nearly 1,900,000 agricultural machines and 30,000 automobiles and other motor vehicles were destroyed or taken to Germany[3].

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1 Soviet News, London, June 29, 1946.

2 Soviet Monitor, London, February 8, 1947.

3 Letter to UNRRA from Ukrainian Government Department of UNRRA Supplies, April 6, 1946.

727 361 ,742 municipally owned houses (more than 22 million square feet of housing space) and 3,600 privately owned houses comprising 5½ million square feet of space.

[361] As a result more than 200,000 inhabitants of Kiev have been made homeless.

The Germans gutted Kiev's industrial plants of their equipment and shipped it to Germany. They destroyed the buildings of industrial enterprises including the machine-building plants "Bolshevik" and "Red Excavator", which had supplied industry, agriculture and transport with machinery, implements, and spare parts.

They blew up the textile mills, a spinning and knitting mill, the Gorky clothing factory, the first, fourth and eighth shoe factories, and other plants; blew up, destroyed or burned down the electric-power stations, the trolley cars and trolley buses, the water supply system and the drainage system. They destroyed mechanized bakeries and other establishments.

[368] The very important railway junction Kiev-Darnitza was destroyed with all its tracks, equipment, and installations as well as all station buildings and the depot at the station Kiev I.

City of Kharkov (Population in 1939: 833,432).

In connection with the third anniversary of the liberation of Kharkov, "the second capital of the Ukraine", the following figures on destruction and the extent of rehabilitation have been made known.

727 361 362 Before the war Kharkov had 41 million square feet of housing floor space. The Germans destroyed about half of all the flats. In the three years since liberation, six million square feet of housing floor space have been restored. The people of Kharkov have also restored 293 big plants and factories, including the famous tractor works, an electro-mechanical plant, a turbo-generator works and machine tool, and agricultural implements and other plants[1].

Dniepropetrovsk (Population in 1939: 500,662).

In this city 30 per cent. of the homes, 80 per cent. of the industry, and 70 per cent. of schools and other cultural institutions were destroyed. The UNRRA Mission reports that reconstruction has been very slow, and is hampered by shortages of food, shelter and equipment. In 1946 many of the residents of Dniepropetrovsk were still living in huts contrived of straw and clay, under a tar paper roof.

Kremenchug (Population in 1939: 89,553).

In April 1946, when members of the UNRRA Mission to the Ukraine

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1 Soviet Monitor, London, September 12, 1946.

727 first visited Kremenchug, they reported it as over 90 per cent.
361 destroyed. "About 50,000 inhabitants have returned and are living
362 in dugouts, cellars, and rubble shacks. Reconstruction is progressing slowly because of the shortage of materials. The only industries operating are a small machine shop for bridge repair parts, a textile factory, and one wing of a cigarette factory which happened to escape destruction. One bakery is being repaired... All grain elevators and flour mills, which constituted the chief pre-war industry, are completely destroyed."

Poltava (Population in 1939: 130,305).

In April 1946 the UNRRA Mission reported Poltava about 80 per cent. destroyed. "About 100,000 of the inhabitants have returned and are living under conditions only slightly better than Kremenchug. On the main street only one building is intact. The Mayor estimated that reconstruction would take at least fifteen years. The locomotive repair shop and a stocking factory are the only industries operating two years after liberation."

Other Cities

In Zaporozhie (population in 1939: 289,188) 75 per cent. of the homes and virtually all industry were destroyed[1]. Stalino, the industrial and mining centre of the Donets Basin, has been described as a shadow of its former self. Its pre-war population was 510,000. During the war about 100,000 of the people were driven into slavery by the Germans. Another 80,000 men, women, and children were thrust into one of the mines to die. Seventy-five per cent. of all the buildings in the city were destroyed; and of these only 30 per cent. were in a condition to be restored. All the mines in the area were flooded; and from one pit alone over 3,300,000 tons of water had been pumped by August 1946[2].

The Ukraine's Application for UNRRA Assistance

727 In the summer of 1945 the government of the U.S.S.R. transmitted
648 to the Director General of UNRRA a request for assistance in rehabilitating
457 those areas of the Soviet Union which had suffered most heavily because of the war and the German occupation. In August 1945 at the Third Session of the UNRRA Council, the Soviet delegate strongly requested that 700 million U.S. dollars be allocated for relief work in the Ukrainian and Byelorussian Soviet Republics. At the same Council Session the applications of Byelorussia and the Ukraine for membership in UNRRA were unanimously accepted, and the two republics were requested to send delegates to the Third Council meetings.

In December 1945 agreements were signed between UNRRA and the governments of the Byelorussian and Ukrainian Republics providing for

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1 UNRRA Mission to the Ukraine, Kiev.

2 Soviet News, London, August 22, 1946.

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439 been food supplies, which in many Ukrainian towns constituted the only
648 food to be seen in shops in 1946. For fats and oils particularly the Ukrainian population has been entirely dependent on UNRRA aid.

The U.S.S.R.'s Five-Year Plan, 1946-50

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649 UNRRA assistance to the Ukraine has been of necessity limited in scope and short-term in nature. Long after relief shipments are ended - and they are now all but complete - the Ukraine will still be working to rebuild its factories, cities, and farms. The main task of rehabilitation is therefore a long-term one, and depends upon long-range measures.

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185 On March 18, 1946, the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. adopted a Five-Year Plan, 1946-50, for the rehabilitation and development of the national economy of the Soviet Union. This plan is the fourth of a series of Five-Year Plans[1] designed to increase the productivity of Soviet farming and industry, and in general to raise the standard of living of the whole population. As stated by the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., the principal aims of the Five-Year Plan in 1946-50 are to rehabilitate the devastated regions of the country, to recover the pre-war level in industry and agriculture, and then considerably to surpass that level.

[652] The new Five-Year Plan provides that nearly one-third of the capital investments for the entire Soviet Union in 1946-50 (49,500 million roubles out of a total of 250,300)[2] are to be spent on the restoration of the Ukraine. Of this 49,500 million, 5,469 million will be used for works under the Ukrainian Republic's jurisdiction.

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727 In the next five years all the destroyed cities of the Ukraine - particularly Kiev, Kharkov, Chernigov, Odessa, Dniepropetrovsk, Stalino,
362 and Zaporozhie - are to be rebuilt and their municipal services restored. Housing is to be replaced as speedily as possible; in 1946-50, 175,120,000 square feet of state-owned housing are to be built, of which 12.65 million square feet are to be made available by local Soviets. The amount of privately owned housing to be built before 1950 is fixed at 36.3 million square feet.

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185 Also under the Five-Year Plan Ukrainian agriculture is to be rehabilitated; the crop area for 1950 is planned at 30.5 million hectares. By 1950 the Ukraine is scheduled to be producing about 20 per cent. of the grain harvested in the U.S.S.R. (approximately the same tonnage as in pre-war years); 60 per cent. of the sugar beet (about 6 per cent. more than pre-war); and the potato harvest is fixed for 23 million tons, 1½ millions more than in 1940.

000 Industry is to be revived; railroads and other forms of transport

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1 First Five-Year Plan, 1929-32; second, 1933-37; third, 1938-42.

2 Estimated at 1945 prices.

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464 The number of workers and employees in the national economy of the
874 U.S.S.R. increased by 3 million. Vocational schools and factory training centres graduated thousands of skilled workers, and improved the skill of several millions already employed.

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729 Of the districts which suffered occupation, economic rehabilitation
433 as well as capital construction amounting to 17,500 million roubles in
652 1946 made it possible to increase their industrial output by 28 per cent. as compared with 1945. Pravda writes - "the factories, mills, pits, power stations, towns and villages which were destroyed by the enemy are being revived one by one...."[1]

In the Ukraine

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727 The Ukraine has been likened to one big building site, where more
433 than 500,000 workers are engaged in restoring industrial plants and
327 municipal buildings.[2] In the Donets Basin, the coal output of 1946 was 30 per cent. higher than that of 1945. In the Ukrainian iron and steel industry, 21 blast furnaces, 58 steel-smelting furnaces, 60 metal and pipe-rolling mills, and 71 coke batteries were at work by January 1947. Of 104 machine-building factories to be restored, 102 were already producing goods, and mastering the production of improved types of machinery. The Kharkov transport machine-building works was preparing to build long-distance steam engines; and the tractor works was increasing its production, as were many other factories.

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727 In 1946 the Kharkov turbo-generator works made a 100,000 kilowatt
433 turbine and one of 50,000 kilowatts. At Dniepropetrovsk, a lorry
393 factory was being built; and in Odessa and Lvov, automobile assembly
398 works were under construction. Great work was also being done in the development of light industry, food processing, chemical works, and other branches of industry.

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727 After three years' work of restoration the Dnieper Dam had been
433 rebuilt in the main, and the housing for the power station erected.
377 By the end of 1946 the capacity of Ukrainian power stations had reached 70 per cent. of pre-war.

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362 Since the liberation over 104.5 million square feet of floor space
368 had been restored in the Ukraine. Over half a million of the 590,000 houses destroyed by the Germans were restored or built anew in Ukrainian villages; and more than 13,000 cultural institutions in the villages and 118,000 auxiliary buildings on the farms.[2]

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1 Pravda, quoted by Soviet News, London, January 22, 1946

2 Soviet Monitor, London, January 23, 1947.

Coal

316 433 The coal centre of the Ukraine is the basin of the Donets River, a tributary of the Don. In 1913 the Donets region was producing 80 per cent. of all the coal turned out in the entire Russian Empire. (23 million tons of the 29.2 million total); and even in 1940, when the production of other coal areas in the U.S.S.R. had been greatly expanded, and many new areas explored and put into operation, Donets mines still accounted for more than half the total output (83.8 million tons of the entire Soviet Union production of 164.6 million).

Since about 70 per cent. of all the fuel consumed in the U.S.S.R. is supplied by coal,[1] the rehabilitation of the Ukrainian coal industry is of tremendous importance to the economy of the Soviet Union.

727 326 It is now over three years since the Soviet Army drove the Germans out of the Donets Basin. Before their rout, the enemy flooded the mines and burned engineering plants, miners' settlements, and cities. Restoration work was started soon after the liberation of the Basin, but it was estimated that to restore coal output to the pre-war level it would be necessary to pump 650 million cubic metres of water out of the mines and to restore 1,565 miles of mine galleries.[2] Today, the towns of the Donets Basin are a mass of scaffolding, as war-devastated houses, buildings, and roads continue to be repaired. Mine derricks dot the landscape; and water is being pumped in a steady stream from the mine pits. At the Chelyuskin Mine which before the war was one of the biggest and best eqipped in the Donets, over nine million cubic metres of water had been pumped by the middle of December 1946; and about 20 miles of galleries had been restored. Coal output averaged a thousand tons a day.

By January 1947 about 142 major coal mines of the 279 operating prior to the war had been restored, and 430 smaller ones, rehabilitated or built anew, were in operation. Production was nearly half of pre-war.[3]

● [362] As regards housing for Donets workers, it is planned within the next five years not only to restore the houses demolished by the Germans, but also to build another 20 million square feet of housing space in the Donets Basin; in 1946 alone over four million square feet of floor [464] space had been reconstructed. Thousands of miners are being helped to build their own homes; and measures are being taken to increase their food supplies.

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1 Moscow Radio feature, "Sidelights on Soviet Life," cited in Soviet Monitor, London, January 29, 1947.

2 Soviet Monitor, London, September 12, 1946

3 Soviet Monitor, London, January 23, 1947